

1) What's behind the question?

Is it an intellectual question? Or a personal one?

=> Ask questions and listen before you speak!

Jesus and Lazarus...

2) Is God behind the suffering we're experiencing?

It's not the direct judgement of God on specific people for specific sins

But isn't God in control of the world? How could he let it happen?

Two comments...

- human freedom is precious and costly
- natural evil is bound up with moral evil

A Better Question...

3) The Gospel is the Answer
Incarnation and the Cross - he is with us in the mess
The Resurrection - he is promising deliverance from the mess (and has guaranteed it!)
God's answer to an impossible problem – justice and mercy in Christ and through the gospel
Romans 3:24-25
The offer of mercy in the gospel tomorrow requires patience with evil today
4) Flipside: does atheism help?
Yes, but no.
5) What might God actually be doing 'in and through' the coronavirus?